

Sacramento County—Dr. E. M. Wilder, chairman; W. A. Beattie and J. P. Dillon.

San Bernardino County—Dr. G. G. Moseley, Dr. Carroll C. Davis, Dr. C. G. Hilliard.

San Diego County—Dr. Homer C. Oatman, Dr. R. J. Pickard, Dr. Harry Wegefarrh, Dr. P. M. Carrington, Dr. R. L. Doig.

San Francisco County—Alice M. Woods.

Orange County—Dr. H. M. Robertson, Dr. J. I. Clark, Dr. A. M. Weedie.

Santa Cruz County—Dr. J. M. Gates, Dr. Keck, Dr. E. E. Porter.

Ventura County—Dr. D. W. Mott, Dr. C. A. Jensen, Dr. B. E. Merrill, Dr. H. B. Osborn.

These are all the counties reported to date, October 18th.

#### Committee on State Industrial Accident Laws.

Los Angeles County—Dr. Wm. R. Moloney, chairman; Dr. E. H. Southworth and Dr. C. P. Thomas.

#### REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH ON SEPTEMBER 2ND, 1916.

The State Board of Health met in Sacramento September 2, 1916, to hold the regular monthly meeting. Doctors George E. Ebright, F. F. Gundry, Edward F. Glaser, Adelaide Brown, Robert A. Peers, and Wilbur A. Sawyer were present.

Inasmuch as a plague-infected ground squirrel had been found in San Mateo County, a resolution was passed declaring that county to be an existing focus of plague. This action adds San Mateo County to the list of counties in which it is possible, under the State law, to compel land owners to destroy ground squirrels.

President George E. Ebright presented a progress report of the committee which is investigating the care and commitment of the insane and persons addicted to the use of habit-forming drugs.

On the request of Dr. W. W. Cross of Fresno, Director of the San Joaquin Valley Branch Laboratory of the Bureau of Communicable Diseases, he was given a leave of absence for one year from October 1, 1916, and Dr. Clifford D. Sweet was appointed to fill the vacancy during his absence.

Mr. Stanley B. Freeborn was reappointed inspector of the State Board of Health, without salary from the Board, for services in connection with the malaria and mosquito survey, to hold office for a period of one year from date.

In accordance with the recommendation of Mr. C. G. Gillespie, Director of the Bureau of Sanitary Engineering, a permit was granted to the Hanford City Water Company to supply water to the city of Hanford. Temporary permits to supply water were granted to the Escondido Mutual Water Company, the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation (to supply water to the city of Selma), and the city of Turlock. A permit was granted to the city of Dinuba to dispose of sewage on a sewage farm after clarification. A temporary permit was given to the city of Turlock to continue to use the present method of sewage disposal.

A report was received from Mr. C. G. Gillespie, Chief Engineer, and Mr. Kemper B. Campbell, Attorney to the Board, on the work which the city of Los Angeles is instituting as a first step in meeting the Board's requirements regarding sewage disposal at Hyperion.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Director of the Bureau of Tuberculosis, wards 1 and 2 of the women's building of the San Francisco City and County Hospital were placed on the eligible list for the State tuberculosis subsidy. Two of the men's tuberculosis wards had previously been accredited.

Miss E. L. M. Tate, Director of the Bureau of Tuberculosis, was appointed delegate to the Southwestern Conference of the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis at Albuquerque, October 13 to 14, 1916.

The dates for the next examination for certification as registered nurse were set for October 18 and 19, 1916. The examination will be held simultaneously in Los Angeles, Sacramento, and San Francisco.

Much routine business was transacted, including the granting of licenses to cold storage warehouses, the extension of period of cold storage on goods found to be in good condition, and the holding of hearings in a large number of cases of alleged violation of the Food and Drug laws.

W. A. SAWYER, Secretary.

#### DANGERS OTHER THAN ACCIDENTS IN THE MANUFACTURE OF EXPLOSIVES.

We all know of explosions and other sudden dangers of the industrial chemist. There are dangers that approach their victims like a thief in the night, and others that give no warning but strike down their victims weeks and months after an onset, and with these dangers the public has no acquaintance. To safeguard the employees and others connected with certain chemical industries, the American Public Health Association has taken the matter under investigation. At the coming meeting of the American Chemical Society to be held in New York City during the week of September 25th-30th, the matter will be presented in a very comprehensive manner by Dr. Alice Hamilton, chairman of the Committee on Industrial Hygiene of the above association.

Dr. Hamilton has gained a world-wide reputation through her magnificent work on occupational poisons, and is eminently qualified to discuss this all-important subject. Dr. Hamilton is a graduate from the Medical College of the University of Michigan, 1893, did graduate work in bacteriology in Germany and at the Johns Hopkins University, and was bacteriologist in the Memorial Institute for Infectious Diseases at Chicago until 1909, when she started her investigations of occupational poisons for the State of Illinois. Since 1909, she has been connected with the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, where most of her classical work has been accomplished. As part of the program of the symposium of occupational diseases, Dr. Hamilton will present a paper somewhat along the following lines.

The risks from explosion in the manufacture of ammunition are well known to everyone, but there are other much less familiar and more subtle dangers connected with these processes, a study of which was recently undertaken by the Federal Department of Labor in collaboration with various State departments. It has been found that gases very poisonous in character are evolved in large quantities in the manufacture of nitrated products, such as gun cotton, nitro-glycerine, picric acid, and the new explosive T. N. T., and tronal and tetryl. These products are themselves often poisonous, causing distressing skin affections in those handling them and, when absorbed, more serious disturbances such as alterations in the blood are acute degeneration of the liver. More familiar poisons such as ether, wood alcohol, benzol, chlorine, mercury, phenol, and aniline, are also met with in these plants, and the number of cases of fairly serious industrial poisoning that have occurred in this country since the outbreak of the European war is far from negligible. As a rule the old established companies, whose experience is great, are using excellent preventive measures against these dangers, but the newer "war bride" factories are far less satisfactory.